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THE CHIRONIAN.

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WITH this number we commence the fourth volume of THE CHIRONIAN, and in sending it out we ask the support of the Alumni of the College during the coming winter. It is proposed to make its pages of interest to both student and practitioner. This can only be done by the co-operation of all interested, which we earnestly request. Its pages will at all times be open to the Alumni for interesting matter, and we hope the opportunity will not be neglected.

THE regular lecture began on Wednesday, October 4th. Every old student felt that he was holding an informal reception, so hearty were the greetings exchanged by all. Prof. Leals' opening address, delivered the night previous, will be found on another page.

BY an Act of the Legislature in New York State, the name of the College has been changed to The N. Y. Homœo. Medical College and Hospital.

AT the recent meeting of the Ninth International Medical Congress, held in Washington, Dr. George S. Norton of this city, a professor in a *Homœopathic* Medical College, author of a work upon the *Homœopathic* Therapeutics of the Eye, surgeon to *three Homœopathic* Hospitals and a member of *five Homœopathic* Medical Societies, upon invitation of the President of the Section of Ophthalmology became a member of the Congress, and read a paper upon "The Importance of Correcting Small Errors in Astigmatism."

We are not surprised that the venerable N. S. Davis, M.D., LL.D., President of the Congress and editor of "*The Journal* of the American Medical Association," should welcome a homœopath among them, because *his liberal* views are so widely known, but we are surprised that the ashes of the immortal Flint did not rise up in protest against this unholy sacrilege, *a Homœopath admitted to fellowship in their august body.*

THE evils of the Dispensary system, as it exists, have excited no little discussion in various journals of late, and we know of no problem that presents more difficult points.

The knot to be untied is the treatment of the worthy poor, the exclusion of the professional charity seeker. There is a class who frequent dispensaries, who come simply because they can get treatment free, and not because they are unable to pay.

This seems to be greatly the case at a dispensary near by. We do not think, nor is it at all probable, that the number of well dressed and comfortable looking individuals who appear daily at the clinics of this institution are unable to pay for treatment.

There is a rule, that all who are able to pay a reasonable sum, must do so, which is collected by the drug clerk; but listen to what is said if he ventures to ask such of these "beggars on

horseback"! Well dressed woman appears to have her prescription filled at window of drug room. "Can't you afford to pay something for this medicine, madam?"

"Pay something! Why, I thought this was a dispensary?"

"So it is; but all who are able are expected to pay a small sum for the medicine!"

"But this is a dispensary, where you get things free! No! I can't pay anything."

Of course nothing more can be done; she gets her medicine.

Next woman in line to drug clerk.

"Do you know that woman who refused to pay?"

"No! Who is she?"

"Why, she is Mrs. ———, her husband is wealthy!"

Now this is not altogether a fictitious conversation, but is based on an actual incident occurring where related.

There is only one remedy for this: care on the part of the dispensers by investigating suspicious charity seekers through the Charity Organization. Why it is not done, we do not know, but it should be done in justice to the profession.

It is not just that this money should be taken from the outside physician. There is plenty of material with which the clinics can be supplied, without the promiscuous treatment of all who ask, without regard to worth on the part of the applicant.

No one will suffer by the restriction, and many practitioners will be benefited. We trust it will be done.

Opening Lecture.

DELIVERED BY PROFESSOR MALCOLM LEAL.

FELLOW STUDENTS.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN:—

IT becomes my pleasant duty to give the opening lecture of this, the 28th annual session of the college; and, in behalf of the faculty, to extend hearty greeting to new and returning students.

The majority of those who, to-night, are for the first time seated in the amphitheatre of a medical college, are about to begin study for a profession of which they have only a mental picture, imperfect in outline and color.

As undergraduates, you will be guided in your studies by others a little more experienced than yourselves. When you have taken the prescribed course, you will, if properly qualified, attain the degree of Medicinæ Doctor. You will then as post-graduate students, be free to make out your own courses of study, and to steer your own careers with success or failure. Do not, then, look upon your teachers as task-masters; but remember that they are students like yourselves, brothers, a little older, guides who are to direct you through mazes with which you will soon become as familiar as they.

Allow me, then, as a brother student, to offer a few words of advice and warning.

The knowledge of practice (in its broadest sense) is peculiarly the physician's, and serves to distinguish him from other scientists—no matter how well versed they may be in their respective specialties. They teach the physician, and he combines the results of their teaching in his practice. You have, therefore, before you the task of familiarizing yourselves with many sciences, and no matter how well versed you may become in any one or a few of them, you are not entitled to call yourselves physicians until you have an understanding of all, sufficient to apply the combined knowledge to the cure of those afflicted with disease.

Then do not study with the idea of learning as little as possible, of learning merely enough to "get through;" but remember that passing examinations and securing a diploma are not your sole objects in life.

Do not neglect any part of any branch because you fail to see its practical application.

Do not argue that because you are going to be a surgeon, or because you are not going to be a surgeon, you do or do not need this or that knowledge. You don't know yet what you will be. You may need the very knowledge you

now despise, and let me tell you, the knowledge of having lost an opportunity by some past neglect, is an uncomfortable companion.

Ask yourself questions, and follow every inquiry with a "why" and "how," and do not give up until you have answered it finally.

Take as full notes of your lectures as you can. Copy these notes and add to them from all available sources, striving to make them not merely lecture notes, but complete treatises on the subjects comprised.

The motto of the physician surgeon is, "semper paratus" — "always ready." Think you of emergencies. Think what you would do. I don't know, you say. Then read it up, and find out.

Do not dismiss any statement as an absurdity without strong cause based upon investigation. Recently Dr. Dwyer published a method of preventing the fatal stoppage of breathing, occurring in certain diseases of the larynx, by the introduction of a metallic tube into the glottis itself, and this operation was supposed to supplant that of tracheotomy. Forty years ago a French physician advocated the same thing, but the idea was then hooted at, and condemned untried. In 1885 a prominent physician wrote an article pointing out the absurdity of this operation, but while the article was yet in press, Dr. Dwyer's results were published, and was soon followed by such an array of statistics that our author stated, in a spirit of fairness, that he was willing to admit that he was mistaken.

You, as students and graduates of this college, will belong to the sect or school of homœopathists. This association will procure for you many warm friends, and will probably make for you enemies. You may be reviled and ridiculed at first by some who should be brothers, but while you are smarting under their intolerance, beware you be not intolerant yourselves. You and they are all to be physicians. First: Your mission and theirs is the same. You believe in your methods of selecting remedies for disease, they in theirs. Strive not by words, but by deeds, to prove that you are right. You do not add to the glory of homœopathy by boasting, or by decrying the methods of another sect. You do harm to the cause you would help. Be dignified, be honest, be charitable, and you will find that the truth will prevail, and that your opponents in belief will respect you, and give credence to your words.

Dogmatic Doctors.

THE following satire was delivered by Professor Helmuth to a large audience assembled in the Grand Opera House at Pittsburg, to celebrate the semi-centennial introduction of homœopathy, west of the Alleghanies.

We insert the remarks of the *Pittsburg Dispatch*, from which we copy the poem.

"Many clever addresses, both technical and general, were delivered, during the Homœopathic Convention at the Grand Opera House, this city, last week, but one of the best and most unique efforts was that of Dr. William Tod Helmuth, the well-known New York surgeon. Dr. Helmuth talked to his associates in verse, which, beside its smooth meter and ringing rhythm, is full of keen wit and bright sarcasm. The poem is appended."

The great Apollo, radiant and strong,
Was God of Physic, e'en while God of Song,
Disdaining neither mortar nor scalpel,
While from his lyre impassioned love strains fell.
So may a Doctor, humble though he be,
Aspire awhile to flights of minstrelsy;
Forget his powders and his pills discard;
Become at once a medicated bard,
Whose numbers, flowing smoothly as they will,
Exhale both Nux and Belladonna still.
The wingèd horse sprang from Medusa's blood,
Which well'd from wounds by Perseus made a flood;
Therefore a Surgeon, by this right divine,
May deal with dactyls in heroic line,
And, whispering up the glades of Phocis, may
Ask aid for his hexameters to-day.
And if the Muse in one short hour should tell
Of occult truths, professional, which dwell
Within the sacred precincts of the craft,
Restrain your judgment;—think the poet daft.

Doctors resemble very jealous lovers,
One sneers at that the other one discovers;
One may declare that he the truth descries,
The other flatly tells you that he lies.
The one announces that a new bacillus
Will breed a pestilence and surely kill us;
The other, laughing, says this mundane sphere,
Minus the microbe, soon would disappear.

One swears malaria will ever be
The fountain head of each infirmity ;
The other proves diseases to be fewer,
'Mongst those who daily labor in the sewer.
And so dogmatic doctors dodge the blow
Which brother doctors on their heads bestow.

So when a principle, which, if believed,
Would overturn all notions preconceived,
Would sadly sully Æsculapian fame,
And cast discredit on " old Physics' " name,
Came like the spark, which little power displays,
Till winds propitious fan it to blaze—
The doctors, still dogmatic, rose *en masse*,
Called the progenitor of truth an ass ;
Sneer'd at his knowledge, and his name reviled,
Sland'rous reproach on misconstruction piled,
Bound him at once on persecution's rack,
Term'd nature's greatest benefactor, " Quack ;"
Lampooned the scholar with a ribald wit,
With arguments at once unjust, unfit ;
Including, in their universal ban,
The life, the works, the friends of Hahnemann.

When Pyrrhus, so the ancient fable goes,
Was eager marching on Bercean foes,
A spirit from immortal Mars was sent
To summon him to Alexander's tent.
There, spent with wounds, the Macedonian lay,
But promised succor in the coming fray.
" How can this be ?" th' indignant Pyrrhus cries,
" The light of life is failing in thine eyes,
Thy marshal spirit can inspire no more,
To-morrow thou shall touch the Stygian shore."
The mighty chieftain raised his mailèd hand,
And thus to Pyrrhus, in most stern command :
" Yet shalt thou triumph both by land and sea,
Still shall thy gonfalon victorious be,
Still shall the pæan echo with thy fame,
For I will lead thine armies by my name."
And so the name of Hahnemann shall be
The watchword for diseased humanity,
When that vast army of the body's foes,
Of aches and pains and agonies composed,
That ever watchful in our earthly span
Descend rapaciously on erring man,
Obstruct his life-work with their baleful breath,
Ofttimes the *avant courriers* of death.

Yet spite of all reproach the system grew,
Extending from the old world to the new ;
Sweeping away objections in its flight,
Gathering, in its momentum, might ;
Each fact established tending to create
An increased spirit to investigate.
Then Gram and Hering from the master came,
And still, like Pyrrhus, trusting in a name,
With faith implicit in the cause did rear
Its banner on the Western hemisphere.
Here was the soil in which to plant the seed,
Here toleration greeted every creed,
Here new philosophy new truths displayed,
And day by day were new discoveries made.
Here the profession liberal would be
And gladly welcome homœopathy.
Vain was the surmise and the hope forlorn,
The doctors, still dogmatic, laughed in scorn,
Smelt at their canes and prophesying swore
In half a decade 't would be known no more.
" What," cried these dignified and learned M. D.'s,
" If like cures like, disease must cure disease.
This is paradox, a child may see,
To all established teaching contrary.
The Æsculapian temple stands disgraced
Till this unfounded tenet is displaced.
No mortal since Hippocrates was born,
Save Paracelsus, drunken and forlorn,
Has dared our precincts sacred to invade,
And shake foundations centuries have laid,
Make Mother Goose the text-book of this school.
In rhymes she tells the children of a fool,
Whose eyes scratched out, with all his might and main
With sharper briars scratched them in again."

So against the master and his law of cure,
His name reviled, his system's downfall sure,
The critics judgment gave, in language gross,
But grew more rabid when they came to dose.
" Put but a drop of aconite," say they,
" In winter months on rocks in Baffin's Bay,
In spring-tide let the homœopathist go
Rejoicing to the Gulf of Mexico,
Drop there a vial in the waves so bright,
And draw from thence the potent aconite.
Immediate cork it, shake the bottle well,
Give fever'd patients every hour a smell,
And see disease, ere that olfaction's done,
Vanish like mist before the morning sun."
Thus ridicule its sharpest arrows sent
As substitute for solid argument.
But ridicule can offer slight defense
'Gainst facts established by our common sense.

As yet, beyond the Alleghanies blue,
Adherents to the system were but few,
Till sent by Hering, Gustave Richelm came,
Like Gram and Pyrrhus, trusting in a name.
Remember this was fifty years ago,
Travel to westward then was wondrous slow,
No rushing trains by hundreds every day
Like light'ning speeded o'er the iron way,
No tunneled mountains echoed with the scream
Of iron horses with their breath of steam ;
No velvet-cushioned, ventilated car ;
No Pullman patent trains vestibular ;

To rails of steel, no Westinghouse's brake,
Which now the journey so luxurious make,
Were known to man. Conveyance then was rude,
The journey hither one of magnitude ;
The cumbrous stage coach climb'd the steep ascent,
While dang'rous passes to the journey lent
Increasing peril to the traveler, who
By force of circumstance came through.
Yet all undaunted came the pioneer
To Pittsburg, then considered a frontier.
Alone, this solitary German youth,
Simple in mind, relying on the truth,
Without a partisan, without a friend
On whom in times of trial to depend,
Unknown but patient, steadfast and sincere,
Unfurled his banner, which he planted here.
Behold ! what half a century has done ;
To-day we thank him for the battle won.
Friends, can you dream how fast the pulses be
Of this great age, the last half century ?

Add skill to force and see ten thousand powers
Shake the great earth in these fast times of ours ;
See, in five decades what our race has done,
Grand in the past, but grander yet to come.
Thousands of slaves from galling chains set free,
And man of man demanding liberty
Of speech, of action and of wholesome thought,
Which widening science in our times has wrought,
Behold where woman, better understood,
Stands in the glory of her womanhood,
Freed from that prejudice, where long confined,
Her body was acknowledged, not her mind ;
See where the microscope has opened wide
The gates of science where we petrified ;
Behold new fields, revealing though untrod,
The increased wisdom of Almighty God.

But here in Pittsburg, fifty years ago,
These mighty changes had not stirred men so.
The horizon, 'tis true, was fair and bright,
Glowing and beautiful with coming light,
But Doctors, still dogmatic in their pride,
Though waking slowly to the rising tide
Of views enlarging and of newer thought,
Still held the doctrines that their fathers taught,
Mistrusted every innovation bold,
Despised the new, but reverenced the old.
These were the times when, daily, "ten and ten"
Relieved the livers of our fellow men,
When blisters set the epidermis free,
When stabbing pains foretold a pleurisy ;
When blood in streamlets was allowed to run
In every case there was a doubt upon ;
When setons, moxa's and the issue peas,
Combined or singly frightened off disease,
Which often with rapidity withdrew,
Relieved the pain, but killed the patient too.

Then, as before to Gram—now Richelm's foes,
Dogmatic Doctors instantly arose,
Who like their brothers, centuries before
Great Harvey villified, at Jenner swore,
In old examples satisfaction found
And made with ridicule the air resound,
"Humbug ! most arrant humbug !" was the cry ;
"Give it a decade and the thing will die."
Thus did dogmatic doctors prophesy.

Men rent with pain care not for science,
'Tis then the doctor is their chief reliance.
Migrating microbes are forgot in spasm,
And all the varied forms of bioplasm
Drop from the convolutions of the brain
E'en of the scientist when rack'd with pain.
That man who quickest cures them of their ills,
Reducing to a minimum their bills,
With nauseating drugs disgusts them least,
Of Æsculapius is the true high priest.
To him successful—sure as shines the sun—
Afflicted mortals will determined run,
One cure effected here produced another,
Each man made whole informed his suf'ring brother
That a new system, how, he could not tell,
But minus opium or calomel,
Had cured his ills, his biting pangs relieved,
That cures were facts and must be believed.
So with a force unknown by Heaven blest,
The system spreading fill'd the distant west.
When Richelm came, now fifty years ago,
Pittsburg herself could scarce her future know.
Behold her now, her forces still unspent,
The greatest factor on this continent.
See, where her hills the untold iron hold,
Which rules the world more certainly than gold ;
See, in her mines the everlasting coal ;
Here in her streets the hum, the whirr, the roll,
A million wheels develop and command
The skill'd attention of the workman's hand.
Nature's great forces now are said to be
Pure light, great heat and electricity.
Pittsburgians have caught and chain'd the three,
Made them obedient to inventive will,
While untold wonders are predicted still.
What heat for regulation can surpass
Caloric furnished by your natural gas ?
Where is illumination half so bright
As here where shines the incandescent light
Which through a wire-electric instant flies ?
A touch ignites it—by a touch it dies.
Here flames the furnace, there the forge by night
Reddens the firmament with lurid light.
And yonder factories, 'mid fire and smoke,

Produce ten hundred thousand tons of coke
In one short year; and see the adjacent soil
Yielding in torrents lubricating oil;
While clanging hammers and anvils' ring
Proudly proclaim your "iron city"—King.

As progress opens wide these new domains
Fair science liberality proclaims.
Physicians, once material, can show
That great results from smallest forces grow;
That all the atmosphere is filled with germs,
Arranged and classified with curious terms;
That each disease a special microbe claims
With scientific though jaw-breaking names,
That in our food, our ice, the air, the ground,
Bacteria subtle everywhere abound.
That life itself, with all its joys and woes,
Comes from a bioplast which no one knows.
They call it protoplasmic, and it grows.
The microscopists of to-day can tell
That man himself is nothing but a sell.

With these o'erwhelming revelations known,
The doctors now have less dogmatic grown,
Each honest man—*but honest he must be*—
Allows his friends the utmost liberty
To cure his sick, as conscience may direct,
Without regard to "pathy" or to sect,
For old-time dogmatism now forsooth
Is overpower'd by the march of truth.
For truth is golden, beautiful and pure,
Though error ofttimes may its path obscure;
The voice of rancor may its progress mar,
As sombre clouds eclipse the brightest star;
Ancient opinions may obstruct its light,
And misconception veil it from our sight—
Yet as the mists of old delusions fade,
And fierce invective sinks into the shade,
Truth's glorious light will then refulgent shine
Undimmed and peerless by a right divine;
For God is truth, and truth must ever be
In man a near approach to Deity.

Remedies Useful in the First Stage of Labor.

THE first stage of labor includes the time from the onset of labor to the rupture of the membranes and the complete dilatation of the cervix. This definition applies to a normal case of labor. Many cases of labor, however, are not normal, and in many instances the abnormality consists of a prolonged and difficult first stage. It is the object of this article to briefly indicate some of the remedies which are instrumental in shortening and rendering less difficult this first stage. It is a well-known fact that labor can not proceed successfully when the cervix and os uteri do not fully dilate. Hence, defective dilatation of the cervix and a rigid os cause a great deal of trouble in the first stage of labor. We will first consider the remedies which are most useful in overcoming these obstacles.

Belladonna is a most useful remedy when the os uteri is rigid, hot, dry, and very tender. At the same time there are evidences of cerebral excitement; the face is red and the eyeballs injected. The pains come and go suddenly and are of short duration. The pains are active in character, but not effective in dilating the cervix. The lips of the os are thin.

Gelsemium is another good remedy in cases of rigid os. The os is rigid, hard and unyielding but thick. The pains are deficient and irregular, passing from before backward. The face of the patient has a dark flush, and she is dull and apathetic.

Gelsemium is also a good remedy for hysterical women with rigid os, attended with much nervous excitement. In such cases it should be used in the fluid extract or tincture. The sedative action of the drug will then come into play.

Actea Racemosa or Cimicifuga. The indications for this remedy are: Irregularly constricted os; at one time dilating and dilatable, then suddenly closed by a spasm. The patient is melancholy and nervous and has nervous chills, called the "shivers."

Again, in the first stage of labor, the parts may be in good condition but the character of the pain is not normal. The pains may be too weak to be efficient. The following drugs will meet different phases of this condition.

Caulophyllum: False pains; extraordinary rigidity of the cervix, spasmodic in character; pains at first severe, but no progress made; then the pains flag from long continuance and exhaustion. The patient is very weak and irritable, thirsty and feverish.

Gelsemium comes in under this head also Labor pains gone or widely dilated, complete atony of the uterus; everything seems relaxed.

The patient has a flushed face and is drowsy and dull.

Kali Carbonicum. Labor pains, insufficient. Violent backache. Sharp, cutting pains across the lumbar region, or passing off down the buttocks, hindering labor. Patient is greatly disturbed by sharp, cutting pains.

Pulsatilla. Pains excite palpitation, suffocating and fainting spells; must have windows and doors open. Pains feeble and erratic.

Secale. Weak pains in cachectic women or those debilitated by frequent child bearing or from venous hemorrhage.

On the other hand, the pains may be so severe in character as to be well-nigh insupportable, and by their very intensity defeat their object. In such cases we have remedies which will moderate their intensity of action and render the contractions efficient in the process of parturition.

Arnica is sometimes indicated. The pains are so violent and distressing that the patient prevents the contractive effort as much as possible on account of the pain. With each pain there is a flushed face and heat of the head, while the rest of the body is cool. Patient feels very sore and bruised in any position.

Chamomilla. Spasmodic distressing pains: she can hardly bear them; she wishes to get away from them; she says she must and will get up. She is very fretful, peevish and cross.

Coffea. Pains, although severe, not efficacious. Incessant pains, insupportable to her feelings; she weeps and laments fearfully.

There is one remedy which covers a symptom, which may often prove annoying. The symptom is the frequent desire on the part of the patient to defecate or urinate, especially the latter. The remedy is Nux Vomica, bearing in mind the fact that when Nux is indicated, this symptom is purely reflex in origin and not due to a mechanical cause, like pressure.

WE would call attention to the fact that the article, Prof. Allen's Clinic, was taken stenographically and has never been revised by him (Prof. Allen), and is not intended to represent a typical arsenicum case.—Ed.]

Professor Allen's Clinic.

OCTOBER 10, 1887.

THERE are always some things which are never to be lost sight of in private practice, and one is, give the patient every opportunity to tell his story, cutting short only those who are inclined to be too garrulous.

In this clinic there will be no attempt to make a diagnosis. That is not its object.

This woman has been sent up from the dispensary. Mary H., forty-two years old, and a widow. She has intermittent fever. A woman's age is always an important consideration if she be evidently over thirty-five. Because women from forty to fifty, and in the change of life, have many troubles which are chiefly changes in the circulation, nervous and hysterical trouble. A woman who has been in the habit of losing a certain amount of blood for thirty years does not stop without some symptom, though some may do so.

"How long have you been a widow?" "Seven years." "What is your employment?" "Nursing and sewing." Occupation has some influence. A house-maid may have "housemaid's knee," and a sewing woman may have peculiar troubles.

"Do you sew a great deal?" "Not much at present."

"The great trouble is now headache, indigestion and swelling of the stomach after eating."

She has chills once in a while, and had one Saturday evening. She has had chills more or less for a year.

"Where did you get these chills?"

"Where I was nursing last year."

"How long have you been in the city?"

"I have not been out of the city for a year."

"Where do you live?"

"In Grand street."

I ask these questions, for though we do get malaria here in New York when they dig up the streets, yet when they do not dig up the streets we do not have it.

But about New York there are sections of country where they have a great deal of malaria, as all along the northern shore of Long

Island. They do not have it on the southern shore where the ground is sandy. On the shore of New Jersey which is sandy they have no malaria, but they have sand and mosquitoes instead.

As a rule, where the soil is clayey and there is decomposing vegetable matter which gives rise to these plasmodia in the blood, there we catch it.

"How long have you had indigestion?"

"Three or four years."

"The causes of indigestion are verily numerous enough. Improper food and irregular living."

"You say you had a chill on Saturday night. At what time previous to that did you have one?"

"Not since spring."

"Did you take any medicine on Saturday for the chill?" "No!"

The almost universal experience is that they take quinine. Taken every day for a week the paroxysm will not return. Taken for three weeks the paroxysm will not come back. If the quinine be stopped for an interval of three weeks the chills will return as bad as ever. The poison is still in the system and the shakes begin again.

I would not do it if I had my senses. It is not the wisest way.

A quinine disease is set up in the system which is quite as bad as the malarial disease.

There is no poison which so de-vitalizes the white blood corpuscles and "de-ironizes" red blood corpuscles as quinine. That is the only way to stop the fever. It suppresses these germs and at the same time it suppresses the forming of the blood itself.

"Have you taken quinine?" "In the spring I took some."

Her color is yellow. The tongue is not very much furred. It is scalloped around the edges, showing that she has chronic gastric catarrh.

These chronic cases are more difficult to cure than acute cases. A perfectly healthy man taking chills and fever (but I can scarcely conceive of a man in health taking chills and fever), one with no inherited disease, will get well in three weeks. I have seen them get well in a week. But cases which have inherited chronic disease are very apt not to get over the paroxysms, because you cannot bring the system up to a proper point of resistance. The disease will not flourish in a perfectly normal blood any more than moss will grow on a healthy apple tree.

Now, the symptoms of the paroxysms we will always take first. The character of the chill and fever and the symptoms which occur during the paroxysm, these are very important, sometimes the most important, though not always. Sometimes there are symptoms which occur between the paroxysms, and these symptoms are more apt to exhibit the idiosyncrasies of the patient. Thus we may find what Hahnemann would call the anti-psoric or anti-scrofulous remedy.

For example, the patient may present symptoms of cinchona poisoning, and the interval between the two phases, etc. But the patient does not get very well under cinchona; and yet it seems as though that remedy should cure.

But you find that in the interval the patient does not completely recover, he has hot feet and hands and wants an additional amount of food at 12 a. m., etc.; which requires a few doses of sulphur. If you give that and then give your cinchona, you will cure your patient. You have gotten at the anti-psoric remedies in the interval.

"At what time in the day did the chill come?" "At 12 o'clock at night."

That is very unusual. The time of day at which the chill occurs is very characteristic of a remedy. I ask these questions that a chill in the back may lead us to eupatorium purpureum. A chill which is partial and shuddering, not constant in all cases, and which comes on by drinking, may indicate capsicum.

"How long did it last?" "I had it all night lasting tiil Sunday morning."

"Were you sick in any other way?" "During the night I had pain in the bowels."

Between the attacks of shivering she had vomiting and diarrhœa.

"What kind of pains?" "Griping pains." "Did you have several movements?" "Yes."

"Did you have pain after the movements or did you feel relieved?" "I felt relieved for a time." "Was there vomiting after a movement?" "Yes."

"Did the vomiting come on before you had the chill?" "Yes." "Did you have any fever during the next day?" "Yes, all day Sunday." "Were you very hot?" "Yes." "Did you have any symptoms with the fever? Were you thirsty, for instance?" "No!"

"What other symptoms did you have on Sunday with the fever?" "I had cold perspiration."

"What time did it commence?" "Sometime in the forenoon." "How long did that last?" "It lasted during the forenoon and into the afternoon, but not at night."

"Were these symptoms like the ones which you had in the spring?" "No!" "Had you eaten anything unusual that would bring on the fever?" "Not that I know of." "Did you drink no water during the night?" "I had no desire to drink." "Have you taken food today?" "No, sir." "Why not?" "I had no appetite." "Have you no headache?" "No."

She has some pain in the bowels. Now the time of day at which this chill comes on would indicate arsenic. The aggravation of arsenic is said to be about one o'clock. The diarrhœa and vomiting are also arsenic. There is, however, one symptom lacking which we usually find with arsenic, and that is burning thirst with inability to take water.

In arsenic there is always relief by evacuation, but the relief lasts but a short time, and always comes on again, and is always exhausting. It is a remedy which is characterized by prostration.

"When you had a movement did you pass a great deal?" "A small quantity."

There is no other remedy which so covers her case as arsenic. There is no remedy so good for old cases of malaria as arsenic.

We will prescribe arsenicum album. We will not give her a great many doses.

We will give six powders at intervals of three hours, and six powders at intervals of six hours.

℞. Arsenicum 6. Pulv. xii.

Surgery at the Helmuth House.

EXPLORATORY INCISION FOR THE DIAGNOSIS OF NEPHROLITHIASIS.

DURING the past few weeks several important operations have been performed at the Helmuth House, one of which we give here.

While the patient was being etherized, Dr. Helmuth said in substance: That the gentleman had suffered persistent pain in the left loin for nearly five years and had consulted many physicians. He had become incapacitated for business by the constancy of his sufferings, and the urine was constantly full of crystals, blood and a little pus. He had also occasionally renal colic with severe pain in the left ureter. His urine had been examined a dozen times by as many specialists, and with—as is usual—as many different diagnoses. By some it was said that the disease was cancer, by others that it was pyelitus, and again, by others, that it was nephrolithiasis. "My diagnosis" continued Dr. Helmuth "inclines to that opinion, although I cannot say positively that a stone is present. Making but an exploratory incision can determine positively the presence of stone, and even then, as we find in urinary calculus, sometimes, the offending substance escapes detection. I may say here, that in twenty-four cases recorded by Morris, who first performed the operation in 1880, in none was the stone detected. This, however, should be no bar to the attempt to make the diagnosis, because, first, the operation is not, as a rule, dangerous. In thirteen cases in which the calculus was discovered and removed, two died, one from an overdose of opium, the other from previous disease, and of the twenty-four cases above mentioned all recovered.

"It is my opinion that if a patient has suffered as long as this one, has persistently tried all the medical means offered for his relief by competent physicians, without any amelioration of his sufferings, if his history is one of hæmaturia, with pus and crystals in the urine, that

this exploration should be attempted, and to this end I have brought this gentleman to this house.

"To find the kidney, several lines are to be drawn — thus : a line drawn around the body, just at the umbilicus passes just below the lower edge of the kidney, the left being a little higher up than the right. If we draw a line from the middle of Poupart's ligament up to the costal cartilages, it will pass directly through the renal organs, leaving two-thirds of each on the inner side. If we now turn the patient on the face, and measure a space one inch and a quarter from the spinous processes of the column, and draw a line parallel with it, beginning at the spinous process of the eleventh dorsal, to the spinous process of the third lumbar vertebra, we have the first and inner line of a quadrangle in which the kidney lies. From the top and bottom of this line, draw a line, each running outward for two inches and three quarters, now connect the two extremities of these lines with a second perpendicular line parallel to the first, and the quadrangle in which the kidney lies is made. Of course, an incision, to reach the dorsal surface of the kidney, should pass transversely through this space. Thus, the incision begins, about an inch from the vertebral column, and an inch and a half below and parallel with the twelfth rib. This cut should be nearly five inches long. After the strictures are divided —and it may be necessary, as you see now, to cut through the fibres of the quadratus—I come to the perèrenal fat, which, as you may see, is rather whitish and soft. This I separate with two pairs of dressing forceps and introduce my finger down to the kidney, which can be seen by means of the electric light. In passing my finger over the surface of the organ, I find it smooth, not hard and apparently healthy. There are no inequalities of surface, and therefore, taking this gold pin (a scarf pin), used because of its roundness, I pass it several times into the substance of the kidney. I can find nothing which would justify further operation, and therefore, I must close the wound, leaving in a drainage tube, and await the results.

"I may say here, that in looking over the literature of this subject, I find the following quotation in the Reference Hand Book of the Medical Sciences, Vol. IV., page 306: 'A striking fact in connection with this subject is the remarkable relief afforded in fifteen cases, more or less typical of renal calculus, in which the incision failed to reveal the stone. It is possible that in these cases a slight mobility of the kidney, which may have produced the symptoms, was relieved by the operation, or that by the latter, as Mr. Annandale has suggested, the retro-peritoneal nerves, a neuralgia of which simulated renal calculus, were stretched or divided.' So, gentlemen, perhaps the operation will be of service to the patient, but whether it is or is not, I shall be very certain to let you know, for it is results that testify to the actual value of operative procedure."

Society Meetings.

HAHNEMANNIAN SOCIETY, 1887.

THE first regular meeting of the society for the election of officers and quiz-masters was held Wednesday October 12, 8 P.M.

Vice President H. C. Jewett called the meeting to order, and occupied the chair, twenty-five new members presented themselves and were admitted.

The society then proceeded to the election of officers with the following result: President, H. C. Jewett, '88; Vice-President, E. G. Tuttle, '89 · Secretary, A. A. Hoag, '88; Treasurer, Paul Allen, '89.

The following quiz masters were elected: Materia Medica, W. B. Robinson; Practice, F. W. Hamlin; Obstetrics, R. E. Hinman; Surgery, Z. P. Fletcher; *Paedology*, G. H. McGeary; Gynæcology, H. S. Jones; Physical Diag., T. C. Wiggins.

Mental and nervous diseases, J. T. W. Kastendieck; Opthalmology and Otology, E. W. Whitley; Genital Urinary, B. Clausen; Diseases. of Kidney, J. M. Woodruff.

J. B. LAWRENCE, after a severe illness, has sufficiently recovered to again assume his position as assistant instructor in the Laboratory.

MOTION was made and carried that the President be authorized to fill any vacancy that may occur in the Library Committee.

PROVISION was made for musical entertainment during the winter by requesting all musical members to report to C. N. Platt, for organization.

REPORT of treasurer for the preceding year was made and accepted.

W. H. HAVILAND, Sec., Pro. Tem.

MEETING of '88. At the first meeting of the Senior class the following officers were elected: Pres. F. A. Jacobson; Vice-Pres., D. W. H. McGraw; Sec. and Treas., T. C. Wiggins.

THE class of '89 held its first regular meeting this year, Monday October 9th. The most important business transacted was the election of the following class officers:

President, C. E. WILCOX; Vice-President, C. P. OPDYKE;
Secretary, E. G. TUTTLE; Treasurer, PAUL ALLEN.

ONE of the most noticeable features of the meeting was the absence of that marked enthusiasm, which prevailed, when this class held its first meeting in '86, with regard to foot and base-ball clubs, and the like; but when the Freshmen met a day or two later, all of these sports were discussed with favor; and resolutions made that they be the giants. How about next year?

WE clip the following from a Jersey paper, the "*Bergen Guide Board*," for the information of the class of '87:

> A. L. Nelden, M.D.,
> No. 1 Emory street, Jersey City Heights.
> Diseases of the Rectum a specialty.
> Hæmorrhoids (Piles.)
> Rectal ulcers, Fistulæ, etc., cured absolutely without pain or detention from business.

Also in another column: "We take pleasure in introducing to our citizens Dr. A. L. Nelden, a renowned specialist, whose card appears in another column." We do not see any necessity to make any comment on such stuff, it speaks for itself.

Prof. Helmuth's Clinic.

H. W. BANFILL, aet 50; occupation, forgeman.

About fourteen years ago he received a blow from a piece of iron upon the top of his head, near the junction of the coronal and sagittal sutures. The effects of this blow continued for about a year. From that time to May, 1887, he had no symptoms indicating any further trouble. A small fluctuating growth then appeared at or near the site of the injury, being movable, but causing no pain. This tumor continued to increase in size, and by the middle of September, 1887, was as large as a hen's egg. The patient then consulted Dr. Hoag, of Bridgeport, Conn., not on account of pain or any symptom indicating paralysis, but because he was continually knocking the tumor against something during his work, and the growth was steadily increasing. Thinking it advisable to remove the growth, an incision was made in the scalp, and upon examination it was found, to the utter surprise of the operator, that there was an opening through the bony plate of the skull into the brain, and the tumor attached by a pedicle to the dura mater.

Dr. Helmuth was consulted, and advised the keeping open of the incision, and also some irritation to produce suppuration. Since then the growth has continued about the same in size, a small amount of suppuration having taken place, and granulation tissue filling in the incision, with a tendency to heal.

Dr. Helmuth being again consulted, about three weeks afterwards, advised the application of the actual cautery or some caustic paste, the growth remaining about the same in size, and distinct pulsation now noticed. His idea of the origin of this tumor is as follows: That the injury ruptured a small blood vessel, followed by extravasation of blood. The blood clot became organized and the circulation of the blood caused it to grow. From constant pressure of this clot, upwards, the bony matter became absorbed, thereby making an opening in the skull.

Dr. Allen's Views Upon Homœopathic Practice.

THE following letter we copy from the "*Homœopathic Physician*," published at Philadelphia :

To the *Homœopathic Physician :*

In your issue of September, 1887, just received, you ask of me information as to my beliefs, courteously. To such a request I am happy to reply.

The New York *Medical Times* has incorrectly quoted me in making me say that "I do not believe that Homœopathy is the only law of healing." *I never gave utterance to any such sentiment*, nor do I think it. What I may have said and what I am forced to believe is, that Homœopathy is not the only way to treat the sick. I know of no other *law of cure* than the law of similars ; it is a law I stand by in my public utterances and in my private practice. No one can more consistently follow its guidance day by day than I do ; no one is more intolerant of empiricism than I ; no one gives fewer doses, and, I may almost say, less medicine. But while I (the pronoun "I" is used with the intention to give expression simply to a personal opinion) practice Homœopathy, pure and simple, for the cure of the sick, avoiding even a highest potency of an *unproved* drug for the "cure" of neuralgia or anything else, other methods of treating the sick are forced upon me. These methods are :

First. Palliation. This I put first because by me it is most infrequently used—*once* only during the past two years have I been forced to resort to hypodermic injections of morphia in the closing hours of a woman suffering from cancer of the stomach. It is indeed rare that a remedy homœopathic to the symptoms fails to relieve even in an incurable case, but it sometimes happens, and when it does happen, whether from the ignorance of the physician or the peculiarity of the case, one's duty is perfectly clear and must be followed. I heard a homœopathic physician once say that if the remedy failed to relieve even in the highest potency, the patient must "howl ;" he would not be guilty of administering opium. I wish clearly to be understood—palliation is seldom necessary ; the true homœopathist rarely uses it ; but it is one way in which the sick must occasionally be treated.

Second. The removal of the cause of disease. Under this heading lies a mine of investigation, which has but just been opened. If we, as homœopathists, ignore the strides of medical progress in the direction of sanitary science and fail to keep abreast of that progress, we shall go under. What we have to do is to demonstrate the truth of God's law in Therapeutics, not to cover it up with dust. The truth is, people will not get sick if they are cured of all their chronic maladies and live properly. The truth is, Homœopathy alone is able to cure these chronic diseases ; but it is not the truth that Homœopathy will remove the cause of disease. There are numerous instances in which urgent symptoms, the direct effect of an exciting and persistently acting cause, must be relieved by a forcible removal of the cause, and then the patient treated homœopathically to cure him and prevent a recurrence of the malady. These causes are not limited to gross substances, such as copper cents or green apples, but include substances which are microscopic in size, but infernal in activity. Time would fail me now to enter into the whole discussion of contagion and zymosis, but there is no doubt in my mind that while, as a rule, patients are best treated by allowing the morbid process to work itself out, relieving the symptoms homœopathically as they arise day by day, and putting the system into the best possible condition to withstand the attack, there are cases in which, not being able to cure in a few days, the whole cachexia of the poor sufferer, not being able by a dose of sulphur or any other anti-psoric to remove his inherited psora that renders him susceptible to disease and feeble to resist it, we must suppress for a time the violence of the zymosis.

A most worthy but bigoted homœopathic physician allowed a young lady in this city to shake actually for over six months with tertian and double-tertian fever. The patient has never recovered from the absolute anæmia which re-

sulted ; more than ten years have not been sufficient to restore her health. The family let him see it through, and she never took any medicine but in the highest potency. Now, in such a case my duty is clear : stop the overpowering activity of the zymosis, and then cure the patient. Once or twice only in many years have I been obliged to use quinine in large doses. I cure almost every case within a week or two by the clearly indicated remedy ; sometimes they recover in forty-eight hours ; but now and then one must do differently.

He who in these days will not wash out with distilled water and one five-thousandth of a grain of corrosive mercury a fresh case of gonorrhœa and cure his erring brother in twenty-four to forty-eight hours, must give up the treatment of such diseases. The fact that one in a hundred gets an orchitis or rheumatism shows rather that the water was too cold than that the cleaning out of a poison which is unclean and purely local caused a suppression of sycosis or any other -osis. But we do not know much about these poisons which get into us and ferment in our blood and tissues when we are below par. What I think is that, unless we know definitely all about it, the best plan is to treat our patients carefully and homœopathically, but when we do know something about it, expel the intruder first.

Third. Local applications. It is a pretty theory, and one which works well *as a rule*, that if a patient be placed in a favorable condition all sores will heal and all discharges will be natural. I practice on that plan, and I use local applications very seldom, but I am bound to recognize the fact that *some* patients will absolutely not get well without cleaning the sores and washing off morbid secretions. Doctors may theorize and fuss about this all they please, the fact remains : local applications are necessary in some cases. Always in conjunction with such cleansing applications I prescribe the indicated remedy.

Fourth. Electricity. But as I do not believe much in it nor in any of the other expedients I have mentioned, I will not prolong this letter.

If an unbiased observer will watch the practice of different physicians he will see that each gathers about him his own set. Each will say that his world is complete and his methods satisfactory. I witness an eminent physician giving only high potencies, gather about him a coterie composed exclusively of those susceptible to such doses, and flattering the doctor into the belief of his own infallibility. I witness also the hundreds of people who have failed to receive benefit at his hands, quietly dropping away from him, and drifting into the circle of another, who, in his turn, has his own following, and who conceives his methods to be nearest perfection.

I believe that as the years go by, and good honest work is done by us, we shall have less need of adjuvants and expedients. I know that within the compass of my own experience families have become less and less liable to sickness, and the children have grown more healthy and beget healthier offspring. Till the medical millennium, however, we must take sickness as we find it, and do our best to cure, and to relieve if we cannot cure.

It will give me pleasure to defend my opinions against all comers who fight fair, but against those who use offensive epithets and impute unworthy motives I have no weapons.

T. F. Allen.

College Notes.

THE regular lecture course of the college commenced on the fifth of the present month. The college is in a more prosperous condition than ever, with a larger junior class than has entered for many years, and a hospital and college in process of construction.

Eighty-eight extends congratulations to Van Bergen, whom we understand is enjoying a wedding tour in Los Angeles, Cal., where he will continue his professional studies, and enter into partnership with his cousin, a rising young physician of that place.

The Freshmen saw blood for the first time at Prof. Helmuth's clinic on Wednesday. Only two of them fainted.

A certain Miss Susan Van Dusen,
Smiled on a Doctor named Clusen,
When the impudent pill
He sent in a bill
For amusin'
Miss Susan
Van Dusen.

H. J. Pulver, '83, has been appointed a physician on the Board of Health, of Torrington, Connecticut.

Professor Doughty received a hearty welcome on his first appearance before the class on Saturday, having just returned from a trip to England and the Continent.

Prof. Smith's quiz Tuesday and Friday evenings.

It is with sorrow that we report the death of two of our recent graduates, C. O. Norton, '85, and C. G. Davis, '81. Both were graduates of the Hom. Ophthalmic Hospital, and were promising physicians.

Drs. T. G. Comstock of St. Louis, R. Ludlam of Chicago, and Geo. S. Norton, N. Y. City, all prominent Homœopathic physicians, were elected members of the International Medical Congress at its last session held in Washington.

The delay in the issue of the first number of this magazine is due to the recent strike among the printers in this city, and we hope the subscribers will be generous in their criticisms.

Book Notices.

American Medicinal Plants. By Charles F. Millspaugh, M. D. Fascicle VI. New York and Philadelphia: Boericke & Tafel.

It is with pleasure we chronicle the completion of this artistic and valuable work, which has demanded over five years of continuous labor on the part of the painstaking and talented author. This, the sixth fascicle, contains plates illustrating many plants in almost daily use with the homœopathic practitioner, such as æthusa, cannabis, dioscorea, erigeron, euphrasia, hyoscyamus, lycopodium, rumex, sambucus, tanacetum, urtica urens, and uva ursi.

The author and publishers deserve the hearty congratulations of the profession on the completion of a work whose merits are neither few nor small. The character and scope of the work are too well known to need further comment, and it is to be hoped that its utility will be practically appreciated and called into service. By such appreciation only can the profession discharge its debt to author and publishers.

Munroe's Materia Medica Memorizer. The Student's Pocket Companion. By A. L. Munroe, M. D.

This little work, unique as it is, cannot but commend itself to the reader at once for its compactness, originality and practicability.

In it the author has acrosticized and rhymed symptoms of forty-four principal remedies, using the most important keynotes. We have seen nothing that compares with it for the ease it affords for memorizing and holding the leading indications for our most prominent remedies. Every student should obtain one. As an example, we quote an acrostic from the book:

"Bilious troubles and others that hot weather sends,
Rheumatism that comes when warm or cool,
Yellow tongue that is dry, which symptom extends
Over mouth, down throat, e'en including the stool.
Now the stool is, beside, quite large and quite hard,
Imitating the pulse in the latter regard,
Aconite-like in frequence and fullness and tension,
As found in the fevers of every dimension.
Look out when the pain serious membranes invest,
Beneficial *eruptions*, when being suppressed,
After *motion*, much worse, while great thirst prevents rest."

See advertisement on inside cover.

The Physician's Visiting List for 1888. P. Blakeston, Son & Co., Philadelphia. This is a well-known standard publication, and deserves the popularity given it by physicians.

How to Study Materia Medica. C. D. Wesselhoelf, M. D. Among the methods for the systematic study of materia medica this should not be forgotten, and will be worth the perusal of the profession. Boston: Otis, Clapp & Co.

Visiting List and Prescription Record. Otis, Clapp & Co., Boston. Especially designed for the use of homœopathic physicians, being arranged as a perpetual calendar.